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GOVERNOR'S HOUSING AWARDS TOTAL HALF \$1 MILLION

Madison – Department of Commerce, Cory Nettles, today announced housing grants totaling \$500,000 to 15 local nonprofit organizations. The awards were made from the state's Local Housing Organization Grant Program (LHOG) administered by the Department of Commerce's Division of Community Development, Bureau of Housing.

Secretary Nettles called the program "unique" because the State provides matching funds up to \$40,000 to local organizations that are developing housing opportunities in their communities. "Often, the hardest part of expanding the supply of affordable housing is getting started. LHOG funds act as the "seed money" which in turn attracts the widespread local support needed for successful housing production," he said.

"The grants will fund the oversight of single family housing development, counseling programs for potential home buyers, tenant education, development of self-help home building programs, transitional housing development, capacity building and numerous other housing efforts," Secretary Nettles, concluded. "These grants will provide housing assistance for Wisconsin's most disadvantaged and vulnerable populations."

A total amount of \$500,000 is being distributed throughout the State of Wisconsin in this competition. The awards are being made in three categories: the Milwaukee Area, Other Metropolitan Areas, and the Balance of the State. The organizations, amounts and projects are:

LHOG PROPOSED ACTIVITIES 2004

MILWAUKEE METRO

MIDTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Central City, Milwaukee – \$38,000

In collaboration with Select Milwaukee, Inc. the Midtown Neighborhood Association will oversee the construction of a single-family housing development in the central city. This development, Garfield Place will result in 8 low-to moderate-income families achieving homeownership.

ACTS, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORP. INC.

Central City, Milwaukee – \$38,000

The agency will assist 10 very low-income households to achieve homeownership in the central city of Milwaukee. Services provided to the households include homebuyer counseling, real estate brokerage, assistance with rehabilitation of the units, and post purchase counseling.

SOUTH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Milwaukee Near South Side – \$37,000

South Community Organization will provide formal homebuyer training to 160 low-to moderate-income households. This training will result in 40 first time homebuyer purchases. The agency will also provide post purchase counseling to 40 households.

LAYTON BOULEVARD WEST NEIGHBORS, INC.

Milwaukee, Layton Blvd. West – \$34,000

Layton Boulevard West will provide, through it's Housing Coordinator, a wide range of housing activities such as conducting home buyer classes in English and Spanish, promoting local resources for 200 property updates and repairs, and developing a housing resource guide in English and Spanish. The agency will also facilitate code violation abatement on 20 properties, and coordinate 10 major home rehabilitations and 10 minor rehabilitations.

OTHER METRO

CHIPPEWA COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY/ STARTING POINTS Chippewa County – \$38,000

Chippewa County Housing Authority will produce 10 units of self-help housing utilizing Self-Help Opportunity Program (SHOP) funds. This production will consist of 4 units of new construction and 6 units of acquisition and rehabilitation. The agency will also provide foreclosure prevention counseling to 25 at-risk households. Starting Points will provide housing counseling to 1400 homeless or at risk very low income households.

SOUTHEASTERN WI HOUSING Rock, Walworth, Racine & Kenosha Counties – \$37,000

The Southeastern WI Housing will oversee the construction of 10 self-help homes in Walworth, Racine and Kenosha counties utilizing HUD SHOP funds. They will conduct homebuyer seminars and oversee the construction of 9 self-help homes in Rock County. The agency will also conduct pre-development work for the construction of 8 rental units.

GREATER FOX CITIES HFH, INC. Outagamie, Winnebago, & Calumet Counties – \$37,000

Greater Fox Cities Habitat for Humanity will oversee the construction of 27 new Habitat homes within service area over two years. They will also provide home ownership counseling to 27 families who will purchase the units.

MADISON AREA COMMUNITY LAND TRUST City of Madison – \$37,000

The Madison Area Community Land Trust will fund a Project Manager to oversee the construction of Troy Gardens, a 20-unit new construction housing project over a two-year period. The Troy Gardens development will be fully accessible.

HOME OWNERSHIP MADE EASY, INC. Sheboygan County - \$37,000

In cooperation with St.Vincent De Paul and Catholic Social Services, the agency will develop 20 one room transitional units. The Society of St.Vincent de Paul will lease and manage the units. Catholic Social Services will provide supportive services such as counseling and referral.

BALANCE OF STATE

NORTH WI CDC / INDIANHEAD COMMUNITY ACTION, INC

Sawyer, Rusk, Washburn, Douglas, St. Croix & Barron Counties – \$38,000

North WI CDC will oversee the construction of 8 affordable homes using modular and self-help construction techniques as well as utilizing Self-Help Opportunity Programs (SHOP) funds. They will collaborate with Indianhead Community Action, Inc. to provide credit and budget counseling to 28 households.

HBC SERVICES

Jefferson County – \$24,000

HBC will expand services to Jefferson County and will provide homebuyer counseling services to 160 households and assist 60 households to purchase a home. The agency will also provide 24 educational home buying seminars, 12 in English and 12 in Spanish.

HO-CHUNK HOUSING AUTHORITY

Sauk County - \$35,000

The Ho-Chunk Housing Authority will hire a Development Project Manager to oversee the construction of 36 units of affordable rental housing in Ho-Chunk Village (Wisconsin Dells/Baraboo).

LOWER WI RIVER HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Iowa, Sauk & Richland Counties – \$20,000

Lower Wisconsin River Habitat for Humanity will maintain a half-time construction manager to oversee the construction of two affordable homes for very low-income households. The agency will also provide housing counseling to 18 households.

RENEWAL UNLIMITED, INC

Adams, Juneau, Columbia & Sauk Counties - \$30,000

Renewal Unlimited will provide comprehensive counseling to 25 low and moderate-income households and assist them to purchase a home. The agency will also oversee the construction of a 2-unit condominium structure and provide comprehensive counseling and placement for 12 low- to moderate-income tenants.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREEN COUNTY

Green County – \$20,000

Habitat for Humanity of Green County will assist 20 elderly or disabled households by providing repair, rehabilitation and upgrades to allow the occupants to remain in their homes. The agency will oversee the construction of 1 unit of affordable housing for a very low-income household. The agency will conduct a housing needs survey in Green County which will include the growing Hispanic population.